



STEVE COOLEY  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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18000 CLARA SHORTRIDGE FOLTZ CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER  
210 WEST TEMPLE STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-3210 (213) 974-3501

March 6, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZE THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO ACCEPT SEVENTH YEAR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (OES) FOR THE ELDER ABUSE ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH PROGRAM (EAAOP) FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2006-07 ALL DISTRICTS (3 VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Authorize the District Attorney, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to accept grant award funding for EAAOP from OES in the amount of \$180,000, with a required 25 percent match of \$45,000 for a total project cost of \$225,000. The grant period is October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007.
2. Authorize the District Attorney or his designee, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to serve as Program Director and to sign and approve revisions to the Grant Award Agreement that do not increase the net County cost of the program.

**PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Los Angeles County is home to the nation's largest population of persons 65 years of age or older. The county is estimated to have more than 1,022,650 seniors, or 10% of the total population. As this population has grown, so have the reported incidents of elder physical and financial abuse. In 2005, there were 21,950 reported cases of abuse and neglect of the elderly. The more common forms of reported elder abuse within the county are: physical neglect, mental abuse, financial and physical abuse.

The EAAOP was developed to enhance and improve victim services to seniors who are victims of physical and financial abuse in Los Angeles County. The program is administered by the District Attorney's Victim-Witness Assistance Program.

Board authorization is required to accept the grant award.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This program is part of the District Attorney's commitment to assist underserved victims of crime by alleviating trauma and the devastating effects of crime on the lives of victims and their families. Acceptance of the grant award supports the County's Strategic Plan Goal No. 4, Fiscal Responsibility by securing an available revenue source at the State and Federal level.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Grant funds in the amount of \$180,000 were awarded to the EAAOP with a required 25 percent match of \$45,000, for a total program cost of \$225,000. The department will absorb the required match and has included funding in the 2006-07 budget for this program.

Grant staffing consists of three (3) Victim Services Representatives II at 100%, and one (1) Supervising Victim Services Representative partially funded at 40%.

If funding for this program were terminated, an evaluation would be conducted to determine whether the program would either be continued with costs absorbed by the department, or discontinued with the reallocation of staff to vacant budgeted positions.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

EAAOP victim advocates assist senior citizens residing in Los Angeles County who are victims of elder abuse. EAAOP works with medical personnel, care-givers, service providers, and law enforcement to identify the symptoms of physical abuse and provide services to elders and their care-givers to prevent and respond to incidents of elder physical, mental, and financial abuse. EAAOP staff also work closely with the DA's Elder Abuse Vertical Prosecution Unit and line prosecutors handling elder abuse cases. Public awareness and community outreach are provided to law enforcement and community groups throughout Los Angeles County.

<b><u>Objective</u></b>	<b><u>Number</u></b>
Identify new elder abuse victims/cases	541
Victim referrals to other agencies	362
Service provider awareness training	29
<i>Number of attendees</i>	567
Victim Awareness Presentations	25
<i>Number of attendees</i>	151,097*

\*On May 6, 2006, a presentation was made on a public access cable television to a viewer audience of 150,000 LA County residents. Michael Gargiulo, Deputy-in-Charge of the DA's Elder Abuse Vertical Prosecution Unit, and Michelle Wallace, Victim Advocate of the EAAOP were the presenters. The broadcast focused on senior citizen issues including elder abuse prevention and prosecution.

In the first quarter report period (October – December 2006), 87 new elder abuse victims/cases have been identified, 52 victim referrals have been made, 26 service provider training sessions were conducted for 130 attendees, and 8 victim awareness presentations were conducted.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

This program does not propose attorney staff augmentation. Therefore, the District Attorney's Office is not subject to the Board Motion of December 15, 1998, requiring clearance with the Alternate Public Defender, Probation, Public Defender, and Sheriff's Departments.

**CONCLUSION**

Following Board authorization to accept the grant award for the program, the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board is requested to return two copies of the adopted Board letter to Patricia Orozco, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Contracts and Grants Unit, 201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1300, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any questions may be directed to Ms. Orozco at (213) 202-7651.

Very truly yours,



STEVE COOLEY  
District Attorney

pao

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel



